GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4848
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2008
STRATEGIC BUFFER STOCK OF FOODGRAINS
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji;Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Kharventhan Shri Salarapatty Kuppusamy;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has decided to form a strategic reserve of five million tones of foodgrains in addition to the present buffer stock to meet emergency situations;

(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the manner in which this additional stock is proposed to be created and maintained;

(c) whether the Union Government has also decided to bear the entire expenditure incurred thereon;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a), (b), (c), (d) & (e): Yes, Sir. Pending revision of buffer norms and in order to ensure food security in the country, Government has decided that a strategic reserve of 50 lakh tonnes of foodgrains would be maintained by Food Corporation of India (FCI). The strategic reserve would be built up over a period of time starting from 2008-09.
The cost of maintaining the strategic reserve would be borne by the Government of India.